Working of the Department of Mines and Explosives for the year 1932-33.

READ—

Letter No. 420, dated 15th September 1933, from the Chief Inspector of Mines in Mysore, submitting the Administration Report of the Department of Mines and Explosives for the year 1932-33.

ORDER No. D. 2177-87-- GEOL. 27-33-3, DATED BANGALORE, THE 10TH NOVEMBER 1933.

Recorded.

2. *Personnel.*—Mr. C. E. Suryanarayana Rao continued as Chief Inspector of Mines in the year under report.

3. *Mining and Prospecting.*—The total number of leases, licenses and certificates of approval current during the year was 65 as against 69 in the previous year. The total area covered by mining leases and prospecting licenses was 20,272 acres and the total rents and cesses recovered in respect of them, amounted to Rs. 14,096-8-0.

4. *Gold Mining.*—The total number of mining leases for gold was 21, the same as in the previous year. Mining operations were in progress in four blocks on the Kolar Gold Field against five in the previous year, as the Balaghat Gold Mines, Ltd., ceased to work, with effect from 1st May 1932, and the property was transferred to the Nandydroog Mines, Ltd. The nominal and the paid-up capital of all companies carrying on operations in Mysore amounted to £1,563,000 and £1,513,772 respectively for the calendar year 1932 as against £1,717,000 and £1,667,737 respectively, in the past year. The total quantities of fine gold and fine silver produced during the calendar year 1932 amounted to 329,574·899 ozs. and 27,781·139 ozs., respectively, against 330,434·024 ozs. and 22,604·850 ozs., during the previous year. The total value of fine gold and silver produced during 1932 amounted to £1,925,415-13-10 against £1,561,540-18-4, the increase in value being due to the high premium on gold. The total amount paid in dividends was £412,865-14-6 as against £219,010-16-0 during 1931. The royalty payable to Government on gold and silver won and dividends paid amounted to £105,919-16-3 as against £83,086-16-1 (revised) in the previous year. The total demand on account of royalty payable to Government on gold and silver including the balance due for the previous calendar year amounted to Rs. 17,26,822-2-0, out of which Rs. 13,95,274-6-0 was collected leaving a balance of Rs. 3,31,547-12-0.

5. *Position of the Mines.*—The estimated total 'ore reserves' of all the mines at the end of the year shows an increase of 152,078 tons. No prospecting or mining work for gold was done outside the Kolar Gold Field. The Champion Reef and Oorgaum Mines have reached vertical depths of over 7,200 feet below the field datum. It is reported that all possible arrangements have been made to ensure adequate supply of fresh air to all working places and to minimise the effects of rockbursts. The question of providing adequate ventilation which is very necessary for deep mining, is reported to be receiving the close attention of the management. The central mine rescue station is, as usual, maintained in an efficient condition and its services are made available at times of emergency. "Safety First" campaign is being carried on as usual. "First Aid" work and the "Scout Movement" are said to be very popular and the latter has given a great impetus to the former.

6. *Other Mines.*—The following statement gives the output and other particulars of minerals other than gold in the State during the year:—

Name of mineral	Output	Quantity removed from block	Royalty Payable
	Tons	Tons	Rs. a. p.
Manganese	.....	112·00	70 0 0
Chromite	6,449·78 (83·25 concentrate)	4,213·79	3,160 6 0
Magnesite	1,834·65	2,750·50	1,760 0 0 (dead rent)
Kaolin	2,533·60	2,530·71	2,046 0 0
Soapstone	161·50	161·50	251 14 0
Green Quartzite	6·00	5·00	50 0 0

7. *Mining Revenue.*—The total demand under mining revenue other than royalty on gold for the year including the previous year's balance, was Rs. 85,567-8-8 and the same was realised in full.

8. *Inspection of Mines.*—All the mines on the Kolar Gold Field were regularly inspected during the year and no serious defects or lapses of the mining rules are reported to have been noticed. All suggestions made for ensuring the safety of workmen were immediately carried out by the mining authorities. Enquiries into all accidents were held and persons responsible for them were prosecuted and convictions secured. Less serious offences were dealt with departmentally. Three hundred and forty-eight candidates were examined during the year for the grant of certificates and 78 duplicates were issued, the originals having been lost by the applicants. The examination fees realised during the year amounted to Rs. 1,687-14-6 as against Rs. 1,713-9-0 in the previous year. The examination of the books and accounts of the Champion Reef Gold Mines, Ltd., was conducted during the year by the Comptroller in association with the Chief Inspector of Mines and no irregularities were found. Some mining blocks outside the Kolar Gold Field were also inspected during the year.

9. *Mining Labour.*—The total number of persons employed in the mining industry during 1932 was 19,623 as against 19,109 in the year previous. Of this number, 18,816 were employed in gold mining as against 18,388 in 1931. It is gratifying to note that efforts are being made by the mining authorities to improve the general condition of the workmen and that the relation between the employers and the employees was satisfactory.

10. *Accidents.*—The total number of accidents reported during the year was 217 against 200 in the previous year. Of these, 45 were fatal, 168 serious and non-fatal, and 4 non-mining. Out of 213 fatal and serious accidents, 22 were due to negligence, 18 to recklessness, and 173 were classed as unavoidable as against 22, 10 and 163 respectively, in the previous year. The death rate in the gold mines was 3·93 per 1,000 against 7·12 per 1,000 in 1931. Out of 45 fatal accidents, 14 were due to rockbursts resulting in the death of 34 persons as against 15 accidents and 59 persons in the previous year. The submission of a report of the Special Committee appointed to go into the question of adopting suitable measures for the prevention of rockbursts should be expedited.

11. *Compensation for Injuries.*—The compensation awarded under the Workmen's Compensation Regulation in respect of fatal cases and cases of permanent total disablement and permanent partial disablement amounted to Rs. 56,334-1-1-0 against Rs. 1,17,984-8-0 during the previous year. Besides this, compensation amounting to Rs. 15,566-1-0 was paid in cases of temporary disablement as against Rs. 13,360-1-0 during 1931.

12. *Prosecutions.*—Seventy-six persons involved in 56 cases were prosecuted as against 44 and 37 respectively, in the previous year in connection with the theft and illegal possession of mining materials and of these, 60 were convicted as against 40 in the last year. Twenty-one cases were also dealt with for breach of rules, accidents, etc., as against 15 in 1931.

13. *Explosives.*—During the year, 731 licenses were granted under the Mysore Explosives Rules as against 703 during 1931. All the magazines included in the licenses granted by Government were inspected in detail during the year, by the Officers of the Department and are reported to be in good order. Eight of the Government magazines in charge of civil officers were inspected by the Chief Inspector of Mines during the year and irregularities and defects noticed were pointed out to them. The total number of inspections of explosives premises, carried out during the year by the Magistrates and Police Officers, was 580 against 651 during the previous year, showing a decrease of 71 inspections. Government note that there has been some slackness in the regular inspection of explosive premises during the year by the said officers. The necessity and importance of systematic and regular inspection of all these premises in future cannot be too strongly stressed. There were 16 cases of prosecution under the Mysore Explosives Rules during the year as against 19 in the previous year. Forty-four accidents due to explosives involving the death of 25 persons and serious injuries to 48 others were reported during the year as against 65, 15 and 79 respectively, during the year previous.

14. *General.*—A set of rules regulating the manufacture and possession of gunpowder in quantities exceeding 200 lbs. at a time, was brought into force during the year.

15. *Conclusion.*—The work of the Department during the year was satisfactory.

S. ABDUL WAJID,
Secretary to Government,
Development Department.

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Empowering School Boards to extend joining time.

READ—

Letter No. Spl. 331-27 of 33-34, dated 25th August 1933, from the Director of Public Instruction in Mysore, recommending that, with a view to avoid delay and unnecessary correspondence, the School Boards may be delegated with the power of extending joining time under Article 108, Mysore Service Regulations, in the case of non-Gazetted Staff under their control.

ORDER No. E. 1469-82—EDN. 117-33-3, DATED BANGALORE, THE 31ST OCTOBER 1933.

The recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction is sanctioned.

H. V. RAMASVAMI,
Secretary to Government,
General Department.

Additional Symbols for use in Municipal Elections.

READ—

Government Order No. L. 2937-49—Ml. 154-33-2, dated the 3rd November 1933, prescribing 32 symbols for use for the identification of candidates in the ensuing Municipal Elections.

2. Letter No. D3. 2284—32, dated the 3rd November 1933, from the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, stating that in anticipation of sanction, the President of the Heggaddevankote Municipality has used fifteen additional symbols for the identification of candidates who have stood up for election to the said Municipal Council and requesting approval thereto.

ORDER No. L. 3311-23—ML. 154-33-4, DATED BANGALORE, THE 10—11TH NOVEMBER 1933.

Government are pleased to approve of the use of the following fourteen (14) additional symbols for the identification of candidates in Municipal Elections :—

1. Moon	5. Mango	9. Chair	13. Vase
2. Motor Car	6. Scissors	10. Clock	14. Sitharamaru
3. Cocoanut Tree	7. Lakshmi	11. Sivalinga	
4. Peacock	8. Saraswathi	12. Plantain Tree	

H. V. RAMASVAMI,
Secretary to Government,
General Department.

Working of the Government Presses.

READ—

Report on the working of the Government Presses, the Mysore Gazette Office and the Office of the Registrar of Authorised Publications for the year 1932-33, received with letter No. P. 492, dated the 15th August 1933, from the Superintendent, Government Printing in Mysore, Bangalore.

2. Letter No. 688—206, dated the 15th August 1933, from the same officer, submitting a report on the working of the Government Central Book Depôt for the year ending 30th June 1933.